



Department of
Education



Virginia Community
College System



Library of Virginia



State Council on Higher
Education



Science Museum
of Virginia



Jamestown-Yorktown
Foundation

EDUCATION

Secretary Atif Qarni

The Secretary of Education provides guidance and support to the Virginia Department of Education, the Virginia Community College System, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, as well as Virginia's public and private higher education and research centers.

Agency Expertise

The Education Secretariat includes a wide array of agencies dedicated to improving learning and preserving knowledge through schools, museums, and libraries. This range of specialized expertise and unique facilities represent a valuable resource for the commonwealth's emergency management program. Agencies are assigned in the Infrastructure Support Branch to help with damage assessment and conservation efforts; additional responsibilities include facilitation of educational services to students impacted by disaster. Additionally, public institutions of higher education may have a role in providing emergency shelter facilities, as needed.

Virginia Emergency Support Team

The Virginia Emergency Support Team (VEST) is the Commonwealth's coordination and support mechanism to help localities prepare for, respond to, and recover from notice and no-notice events. The VEST may be activated when the Governor declares a State of Emergency; when the impacts of an event exceed the capacity of local and regional partners; and at the direction of the VDEM State Coordinator or VEST Director in support of a high-profile emergency or non-emergency event that demonstrates a need for state-level resources.

VEST Activation Levels

The VEST uses a color-code system for denoting the levels of activation, ranging from Green/Steady State (typical for non-emergency periods) to Red/Fully Activated (during a major emergency or planned event requiring the engagement of many or all ESFs).



VEST Liaison Officers – EMCs – Public Information Officers

Each Executive Branch Agency and public institution of higher education appoints:

- Primary and alternate VEST Liaison Officers (VLOs) to serve as the main point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters. VLOs shall have subject matter expertise to staff ESFs, dedicate resources, or fulfill other assignments upon VEST activation.
- Primary and alternate Emergency Management Coordinators (EMCs); under the EMC, each agency or public institution of higher education shall develop and maintain plans that outline the actions to be taken by facility occupants during emergency situations, severe weather scenarios, and related preparedness drills.
- Primary and alternate Public Information Officers (PIOs) are responsible for interfacing with the public, media, other agencies and stakeholders to provide incident-related information and updates on the status of an incident or event.

VLO

EMC

PIO

Department of Education

Vijay Ramnarain

(804)477-2136

vijay.ramnarain@doe.virginia.gov

Vijay Ramnarain

(804)477-2136

vijay.ramnarain@doe.virginia.gov

Charles Pyle

(804)640-2117

charles.pyle@doe.virginia.gov

Virginia Community College System

Kim Hobert

(813)77-41444

khobert@vccs.edu

Timothy Mallory, Sr.

(804)836-8117

tmallory@tcc.edu

Marian Anderfuren

(757)663-2383

manderfuren@tcc.edu

Library of Virginia

Connie B. Warne

(804)229-1584

connie.warne@lva.virginia.gov

John Thielbar

(804)683-2167

john.thielbar@lva.virginia.gov

Ann Henderson

(804)692-3611

ann.henderson@lva.virginia.gov

State Council on Higher Education

Alan Edwards

(804)484-5179

alanedwards@schev.edu

Alan Edwards

(804)484-5179

alanedwards@schev.edu

Laura Osberger

(804)387-5191

lauraosberger@schev.edu

Frontier Culture Museum

Eric Bryan

(540)255-9588

eric.bryan@fcmv.virginia.gov

Cliff Edwards

(540)255-4755

cliff.edwards@fcmv.virginia.gov

Joe Herget

(540)255-3181

joe.herget@fcmv.virginia.gov

Science Museum of Virginia

Steve Teacher

(804)382-0467

steacher@smv.org

Allison Drezek

(804)380-7964

adrezek@smv.org

Jennifer Guild

(804)347-0660

jguild@smv.org

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

Raymond T. Hoyle

(757)879-0134

raymond.hoyle@jyf.virginia.gov

Raymond T. Hoyle

(757)879-0134

raymond.hoyle@jyf.virginia.gov

Tracy Perkins

(757)253-4114

tracy.perkins@jyf.virginia.gov

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

Harry Boyd

(804)441-2463

harry.boyd@vmfa.museum

Harry Boyd

(804)441-2463

harry.boyd@vmfa.museum

Jan Hatchett

(804)310-0760

jan.hatchett@vmfa.museum

Virginia Commission for the Fine Arts

Lucas Hall

(804)887-8987

lucas.hall@vca.virginia.gov

Lucas Hall

(804)887-8987

lucas.hall@vca.virginia.gov

Janet Starke

(804)887-8991

janet.starke@vca.virginia.gov

Emergency Support Functions

Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) group governmental and certain private sector capabilities into an organizational structure to provide support, resources, program implementation and services that are most likely needed to save lives, protect property and the environment, restore essential services and critical infrastructure, and help victims and communities return to normal following incidents.

Each ESF has a Lead Agency and Supporting Agencies that collaborate to execute their responsibilities. The Secretariat of Education Lead and Supporting agencies are indicated in **bold face**.

1 Transportation

Integrates the responsibilities of state agencies for the prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery, infrastructure restoration, safety, and security of all Commonwealth transportation infrastructures.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

2 Communications

Assists state agencies, local governments, private-sector entities, and voluntary organizations requiring communications and information technology (IT) related equipment and services in preparation for or in response to emergencies and disasters.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

3 Public Works & Engineering

Coordinates and organizes the delivery of essential public works and engineering services using the capabilities and resources of the Commonwealth.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Department of Health
Department of General Services

4 Firefighting

Monitors and supports firefighting activities, including the detection and suppression of fires on all private, state, and federal lands and provides resource support as needed.

Lead Supporting

Department of Fire Programs
Department of Forestry

5 Emergency Management

The VEST Command and General Staff make up ESF 5. The Command and General Staff includes the State Coordinator, VEST Director, VEST Team Lead, Health and Safety Officer, Access and Functional Needs Chief, PIO and Private Sector. ESF 5 coordinates and supports the overall activities of state government as related to emergency management.

6 Mass Care

Coordinates delivery of state services; implementation of the Commonwealth’s mass care, sheltering and related plans; and coordination of support to local government and non-governmental organization mass care and emergency assistance operations.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Social Services

7 Logistics

Manage and provide resources, including disaster procurement, warehousing and distribution in support of emergency response and recovery operations.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

8 Public Health & Medical Services

Coordinates state-level operations and coordinates state support of local government and non-governmental operations.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Department of Health

9 Search and Rescue

Deploys components of the SAR Response System to provide specialized life-saving assistance to local jurisdictions during any type of incident.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

10 Oil & Hazardous Materials Response

Coordinates and directs state support in response to an actual or potential discharge and/or uncontrolled release of oil or hazardous materials.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

11 Agriculture & Natural Resources

Coordinates state-level operations and coordinates state support of local government and non-governmental operations.

Lead Supporting

Department of Agriculture and
Consumer Services
Library of Virginia
Virginia Cooperative Extension

12 Energy

Coordinates the restoration of damaged or destroyed energy systems and components during an emergency incident.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

13 Public Safety & Security

Integrates state-level public safety and security capabilities and resources to support response activities associated with potential or actual incidents.

Lead Supporting

Virginia State Police

14 Private Sector

This is a newly designated ESF. Coordinates role of business community stakeholders and private sector partners in support of Commonwealth’s response and recovery operations.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management
Department of Education
Virginia Community College System

15 Joint Information Center (JIC)

Provides accurate, coordinated, and timely information to private sector, general public and government agencies during a potential or actual incident.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management
All Agencies

16 Military Affairs

Integrates all supporting Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of Military Affairs resources into the Commonwealth’s coordinated response.

Lead Supporting

Department of Military Affairs

17 Volunteer & Donations Management

Coordinates and integrates the delivery of donated goods and volunteer services from non-profit organizations and individuals in support of disaster relief.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management